

# Ruisinger, Dunne, Murakami, Sieler Fortify NU Infield

**By Hal Brown**  
The infield, with letter winners at three positions and an outstanding sophomore from Honolulu Hawaii at shortstop, is the strongest feature of the young Husker baseball team. Coach Tony Sharpe has veterans Ken Ruisinger, Gil Dunne and Doug Sieler at first, second and third base respectively with Dave Murakami at shortstop.

**Depth Problem**  
The only weak point about the infield is the lack of depth. Beyond the starters, Jerry McKay is the only reliable replacement. This lack of depth was illustrated on the southern trip when Murakami and McKay were both injured leaving Don Vogel as the only healthy shortstop. Vogel committed four errors in two games against Texas Lutheran and Houston.

Murakami sprained an ankle during infield practice before the opening game with Texas Lutheran. He played that game, but missed the next two.

Jerry McKay was expected to fill in at shortstop for the injured Murakami, but he pulled a groin muscle during batting practice before the second game with Texas Lutheran and had to sit out the rest of the trip. McKay was still hampered

by the injury last week and missed the South Dakota State game. Whether or not he will be available for duty this weekend at Colorado will depend on how well the injury responds to treatments.

**Three Mousketeers**  
First baseman Ken Ruisinger at 6-3 looks like a giant in the Nebraska infield alongside the Huskers "three mousketeers" (Dunne, Murakami, and Sieler) at second, third and short. Dunne at 5-8, Murakami at 5-9 and Sieler at 5-7 give Nebraska the smallest infield in the conference.

Ruisinger is the only returnee who hit over .300 last year. Ruisinger was Nebraska's third leading hitter last year with a .321 average and was second in the all-important runs batted in column with 20.

"Spook," as he is called by his teammates, is currently hitting at a .360 clip and leads the team in hits with nine. He is tied for the RBI leadership with four.

**Leading Hitter**  
Murakami, the slick-fielding shortstop is leading the regulars with a .500 batting average. He has six hits in 12 trips to the plate with one of those six hits being a home run. Murakami demonstrated what is expected of a leadoff man to near perfection against

South Dakota State when he got on base six out of the seven times he went to the plate. He collected two singles and worked the opposing pitcher for four walks.

Murakami is also the best glove man the Huskers have had in several years. It is a joy to watch him as he scoots around the infield scooping up balls with "basehit" written all over them.

Gil Dunne at second base is captain of the team and can also be used as a relief pitcher if the need arises. Dunne has gotten a slow start at the plate with only six hits in 27 trips for a .222 average, but

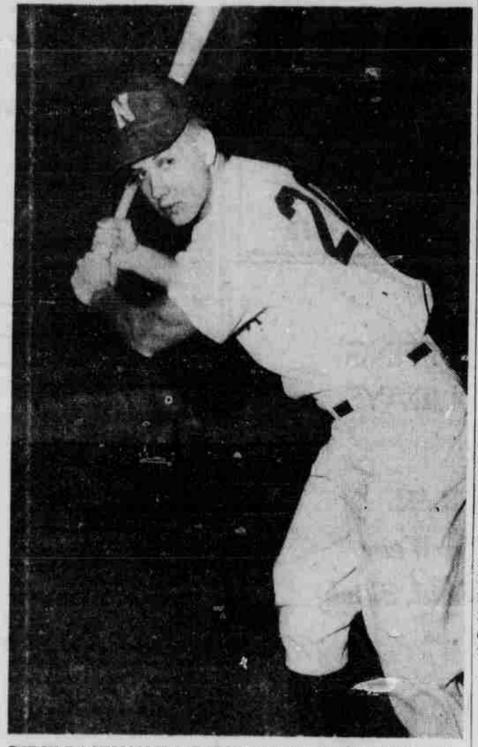
he will probably be right up around .280 or .290 before the season is over. Last year he had a .270 batting average.

**"Hot Corner"**  
Doug Sieler is holding down the "hot corner" for Nebraska in his second year as a regular. Sieler, a Billings, Montana, product, is currently hitting .250 with five hits in 20 at bats. He leads the team in runs scored with seven.

McKay, one of five returning lettermen, can fill in at second, third or short if needed, but it is not known how long he will be hampered by the groin injury. He had only a .175 batting average last

year, but has one hit in three attempts this year for a .333 average.

If the regulars can avoid injury, it looks like the infield is set and the Huskers won't have to take a backseat to anyone in the conference in this department.



FIRST BASEMAN Ken Ruisinger is the leading hitter off last year's Husker baseball team. The 6-3 Omaha native .321 last season. Currently the big first baseman is hitting at a .360 clip and is tied for the RBI leadership.

## Extra Point Club Elects President

Lou Roper of Lincoln was elected president of the University of Nebraska Extra Point Club at its annual meeting. Ted Connor was named vice president, J. F. (Jim) Nissen, secretary; John Bentley, treasurer and Warren Schmackel, assistant treasurer.

Directors for three year terms were named as follows: Robert C. McCracken, Ed Smith, Richard P. Russell, Jr., Brien E. Hendrickson and Bob Reynolds.

Bob (Moon) Mullen was named to fill out an unexpired term of one year.

Retiring president Bob Wagner reported that the Extra Point Club had almost doubled its contribution to the grants-in-aid fund. Plans for next year's drive are in the making, Wagner said, with more emphasis to be laid on organization of outstate solicitations.

**Women's Intramurals**  
Women's intramural softball, badminton doubles, and tennis singles will start Tuesday, April 21. Team lists are due Wednesday, April 15, at 5 p.m.

## Daily Nebraskan Sports

### Intramural Schedule To Be Heavy

Action continues in intramurals throughout this week, with the slate heavy in badminton and softball. There will be six badminton matches today and 10 on Thursday. In softball, four games will be played today and Thursday.

Badminton matches scheduled for today are: Don Larsen Gus II vs R. C. Hahn Kappa Sigma; Wayne Wessel Soph Dents vs Bob Petersen Ind.; Mike Collins Ind. vs Dick Myers Theta Xi; Marsh Bricker SAE vs Ken Batenhorst Soph Dents; Ron Gould Theta Xi vs Bob Marks Ind.; Chick Borchman DU vs Gaylord Brinlee Beta.

On Thursday the badminton doubles matches begin. There are eight doubles matches and two singles. They are: Walt Witgow Soph Dents vs Bill Kepner SAE; Rod Bernasek Theta Xi vs Harold Johnson Betas; States and Taylor, Soph Dents, vs Reeder and Haberman Gus I; Fisk and Geisler, DU, vs Matisons and Godbey, Theta Xi; Aksamit and Souchek, Betas, vs Walton and Keyes, Kappa Sigma; Adams and Baur, SAE, vs Schaecker and Heffelfinger, PEK; Bowers and Purcell, Ind. vs Huber and Shuman, PEK; Valdez and Borchman, DU, vs Ann and Myers, Theta Xi; Sever and Hansen, SAE, vs Place and Ottorson, Beta; Leffler and Brace, Ind. vs Brinlee and Johnson, Beta.

Four softball games will be played today: Delta Sigma Phi vs Pi Kappa Phi; Acacia vs Theta Chi; Cornhusker Coop vs Pioneer Coop; and Van Es vs Gus I.

Eight teams see action on Thursday: Seaton I vs MacLean; Manatt vs Bessey; Hitchcock vs Benton; and Dents vs Pathogens.

### Kubaccki Named Pius X Coach

Jim Kubaccki was named head basketball coach at Pius X High School yesterday.

Kubaccki carved a niche for himself in Husker sports history last year with a last second field goal to give Nebraska a 43-41 victory over the nationally ranked Kansas Jayhawks. He was a three letter winner in basketball and also lettered in baseball while at Nebraska.

### Job Interviews Held This Week

Three companies will be on campus for job interviews this week.

Wilson and Company Inc. are holding interviews today. Tomorrow Continental Can Co. will be interviewing students.

The National Starch Products Inc. will be on Campus Friday.

## Husker Track Team Travels To Okla. St.

Nebraska's track team travels to Stillwater, Okla., Saturday for a duel meet with Oklahoma State.

Nebraska nipped the Cowpokes in an indoor test here in February, 68-54. Three stadium records fell that afternoon, Nebraska's Ken Pollard doing 14-6 in the pole vault; Joe Mullins breaking his own 1000-yard mark and Miles Eisenman of Oklahoma State ran the 2-mile in 9:28.5.

**Two Vendettas** loom as Mullins and Eisenman match strides again. Joe won the mile here after Eisenman had led into the final lap.

The pole vault dual should be a three-way dandy with Captain Ken Pollard of Nebraska trying to repeat his victory over Aubrey Dooley and Jim Graham of O-State.

Pollard has recovered from a fall he took two weeks ago at Oklahoma when his grip slipped on a rain soaked pole. He also suffered a slight attack of flu last week end at the Texas Relays. Best he could do was 13-6.

Coach Frank Sevigne sees another tight contest Saturday.

### Sullivan Named U.S. Trainer

George Sullivan, member of the University training staff, has been named as a trainer for the United States Pan-American Games team. Sullivan expects to work with the U.S. track and field team. He reports to Chicago on August 2, to begin his duties.

### KUON-TV

- Wednesday**  
5:30 Compass Rose  
5:45 Mr. Murzie's Musee  
6 The Fine Arts Quartet Plays Bartok  
6:30 Your Marriage  
7 Community of the Condemned  
7:30 Children Growing  
8:30 Mari Sanchez Looks at the Old West  
9 Once Upon a Japanese Time
- Thursday**  
5:30 Chez Mimi  
5:45 Science in Sight  
6 Evening Prelude  
6:30 TV Classroom  
7 Animals of the Seashore  
7:30 Nuclear Energy  
8 Russia and the Middle East  
8:30 People Like Maria  
9 David Copperfield

## AD LIBS by Larry Hurb



"Another thing, the soil is so rocky not a blade of grass will grow!"

## Colorado, Kansas State, Mizzou Open Spring Drills

**By Keith Bland**  
Colorado, Missouri and Kansas State have also begun spring workout drills this week.

Colorado will have 18 returning lettermen on their team which will be under an entirely new coaching staff this year. Head coach Everett "Sonny" Grandelius will have a variable offense, but he will use the winged-T for a basic formation with a balanced line.

**Rebuilding**  
Rebuilding faces the new coaching staff as they lost 12 lettermen by graduation last year 10 of which were three-year letterwinners.

A major problem will be in the quarterback position where three lettermen are gone. Double trouble also appeared when only 34 players were left on the freshman

squad at the close of the season and the fact that the new coaching staff will have to install a new offense.

Fullback is the only backfield position adequately held firm as Chuck Weiss and George Adams will be returning with all the power and ability they had last year in becoming known as two of the top fullbacks in the league.

**Line Stronger**  
The line is much stronger with left-end Bill Elkins and left-tackle Bob Salerno being two of the top returning veterans. Top sophomores on the squad are right-end Jerry Hillonbrand; guard-center Bob McCullough; and fullback Loren Schweninger.

Coach Dan Devine of Missouri has about 80 candidates out into spring maneuvers and stated, "We must cover a lot of ground this spring because the opening half of our 1959 schedule can make or break the season."

Devine is worried mostly about overall team speed and the probability that his interior line play won't measure up to last year's. He also said, "Missouri's freshman team lost both its games, so we're not anticipating

much help from that source this year."

**Seniors Plentiful**  
Devine insists, "Our leadership in seniors like Phil Snowden at quarterback, and co-captains Mike Magac and Tom Swaney in the line should be real good."

Mel West, 185-pound junior halfback, finished 12th among the nation's ball-carriers with 642 yards and will also be to the advantage of Missouri next year. Danny LaRose, 215 pound junior, made every all-conference team at end last year and saw an average of 46 1/2 minutes a game over the season.

According to Devine, the overall outlook is good if the three interior line positions can be filled satisfactorily and if they can solve their biggest problem of replacing Don Chadwick and Charlie Rasz, two all-conference veteran guards and strong blockers.

**Kansas State**  
Kansas State coach Bus Mertes, had a 66-man squad report for spring drills, including 30 sophomores and 14 returning lettermen. The team will have returning lettermen in all except two positions.

Coach Mertes commented, "We have more experience and depth than last year. I believe we have more depth this year than in any of the previous years I've been here."

"Our strongest positions appear to be end and halfback," Mertes added. The only two positions not having returning letterwinners will be at fullback and at the center.

Returning lettermen ends are John French, Vern Osborne, Ced Price, and Joe Vader. Returning halfback lettermen are John Marcoline, George Whitney, Bill Gallagher, Tony Tiro, Dale Evans and Max Falk. Join Solomos and Kent McConnell return at quarterback.

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